

Facts About

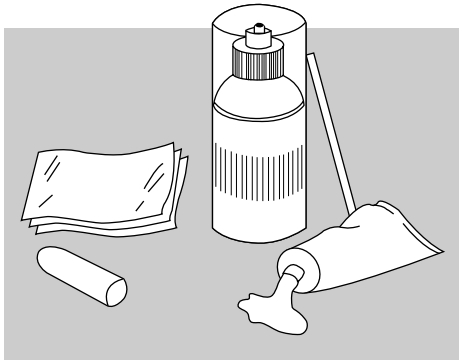
SPERMICIDES

(FOAM, JELLY, CREAM, SUPPOSITORIES AND FILM)



What is a spermicide?

A spermicide is a birth control medicine which kills sperm. There are many kinds of spermicides: foam, jelly, cream, suppositories and film.



How does a spermicide work?

When you put a sperm-killing medicine in your vagina, it covers your cervix (the opening of your uterus or womb) and kills the sperm that touches it.

How well does it work?

When you use a spermicide the right way each time you have sex, it will prevent preg-

nancy about 79 percent of the time. If you use a spermicide with condoms, then you can prevent pregnancy about 98 percent of the time.

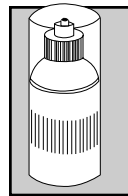
Why are spermicides a good choice for me?

There are no serious side effects and no prescription is needed. Spermicides may also help prevent disease you can get when you have sex.

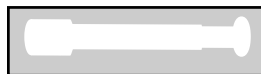
How do you use a spermicide?

FOAM

1. Shake container well (20 times).



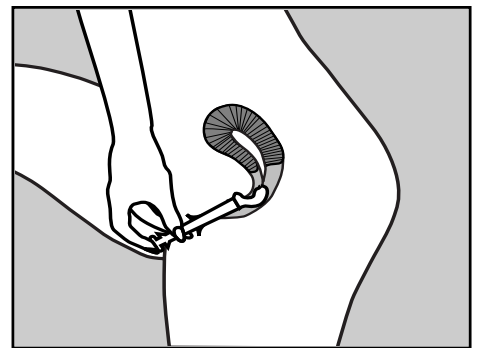
2. Fill the tube and lie down.



3. Put the tube in your vagina (birth canal) as far as it will go and then push the

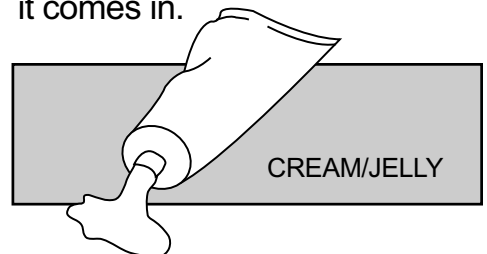
plunger. This puts the foam at the cervix (opening of the uterus).

4. Use a new tub of foam each time you have sex or if it has been over one hour since you put the foam in.



CREAM/JELLY:

Same as foam, except you do not need to shake the tube it comes in.



CONTINUED ON BACK

Facts About Spermicides, cont.

SUPPOSITORIES:

1. Push the suppository deep into your vagina (birth canal).
2. Wait 10 minutes before you have sex.
This gives the suppository time to melt



spermicides weak so they do not work well. (Remember: Douching does not prevent you from getting pregnant. It may cause sperm to go into your cervix faster).

Will I have any problems if I use spermicides?

Probably not. Sometimes a spermicide will cause you or your partner to feel itching or burning. If this happens, try another brand or type (for example, try a suppository instead of foam).

Where can I get spermicides?

You can get spermicides at health departments or you can buy them at drug and grocery stores. No prescription is needed.

Can I breastfeed my baby while using a spermicide?

Yes!

The type of spermicide I want to try first is:

(Circle the instructions that apply to you.)

Tips on using spermicides:

1. Remember: Even if the man has not come (climaxed or ejaculated), sperm is always in his penis. You can get pregnant if the man's penis touches your vaginal opening or anywhere close before you put the sperm-killing medicine inside you.
2. Always lie down when you put the sperm-killing medicine in. If you stand up or walk around, you need to put another dose of medicine in your vagina before having sex.
3. Do not douche for at least six to eight hours after having sex. Douching makes

REMEMBER:

Using a spermicide does not protect you from AIDS or any other disease you can get when you have sex. Use a latex condom to protect yourself.

DOCTOR/CLINIC PHONE NUMBER: